

October 2025 Newsletter

Upcoming in October

- Saturday, October 18, 2025 - Clay Shoot: Hobbs, NM
- Wednesday, October 22, 2025 - Gluten-Free cookie orders are due to council no later than 5:00 PM MT
- Saturday, October 25, 2025 - Chuck Wagon: Camp Mitre Peak
- Friday, October 31, 2025 - Juliette Gordon Low Birthday

Key Dates 2025 - 2026
is now available!



girl scouts
of the desert southwest
southern new mexico
& west texas

2025-2026 KEY DATES

Month	Key Dates
SEPTEMBER 2025	<p>9/15 - 9/27 Archery - Las Cruces (weekly) 9/18 - 9/22 Archery - El Paso (weekly) 9/19 - 9/23 Archery - Midland (weekly) 9/24 - 9/28 Archery - El Paso (weekly) 9/29 - 10/3 Volunteer Award Nominations Due</p> <p>9/21 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 9/22 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 9/23 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 9/24 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 9/25 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 9/26 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 9/27 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 9/28 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 9/29 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 9/30 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs</p>
OCTOBER 2025	<p>10/18 - 10/22 Archery - Las Cruces (weekly) 10/18 - 10/22 Archery - El Paso (weekly) 10/19 - 10/23 Archery - Midland (weekly) 10/24 - 10/28 Archery - El Paso (weekly) 10/29 - 11/2 Volunteer Award Nominations Due</p> <p>10/21 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 10/22 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 10/23 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 10/24 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 10/25 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 10/26 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 10/27 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 10/28 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 10/29 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 10/30 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs</p>
NOVEMBER 2025	<p>11/15 - 11/27 Archery - Las Cruces (weekly) 11/18 - 11/22 Archery - El Paso (weekly) 11/19 - 11/23 Archery - Midland (weekly) 11/24 - 11/28 Archery - El Paso (weekly) 11/29 - 12/3 Volunteer Award Nominations Due</p> <p>11/21 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 11/22 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 11/23 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 11/24 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 11/25 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 11/26 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 11/27 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 11/28 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 11/29 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 11/30 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs</p>
DECEMBER 2025	<p>12/15 - 12/27 Archery - Las Cruces (weekly) 12/18 - 12/22 Archery - El Paso (weekly) 12/19 - 12/23 Archery - Midland (weekly) 12/24 - 12/28 Archery - El Paso (weekly) 12/29 - 1/2 Volunteer Award Nominations Due</p> <p>12/21 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 12/22 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 12/23 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 12/24 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 12/25 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 12/26 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 12/27 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 12/28 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 12/29 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 12/30 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs</p>
JANUARY 2026	<p>1/15 - 1/27 Archery - Las Cruces (weekly) 1/18 - 1/22 Archery - El Paso (weekly) 1/19 - 1/23 Archery - Midland (weekly) 1/24 - 1/28 Archery - El Paso (weekly) 1/29 - 2/2 Volunteer Award Nominations Due</p> <p>1/21 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 1/22 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 1/23 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 1/24 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 1/25 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 1/26 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 1/27 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 1/28 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 1/29 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs 1/30 1st Y.G. Day - Hobbs</p>

CLICK HERE!



**Follow our new GSDSW Facebook for
updates and more!**

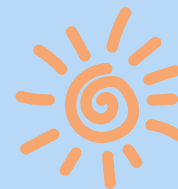
Girl Scout Movement

2026 Girl Scout Convention July 20–25, 2026

Are you ready to connect with 10,000+ Girl Scouts from across the globe at the 2026 Girl Scout Convention, happening July 20–25, 2026, at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C.?

The event kicks off with the 57th National Council Session, July 20–22, 2026, where delegates gather to vote on important issues and elect national leaders. Then, from July 23–25, 2026, the full convention opens with interactive workshops, inspiring speakers, and unforgettable adventures welcoming Girl Scouts, alums, families, and friends!

Hosted by Girl Scouts Nation's Capital, this once-every-three-years celebration is your chance to experience the power, purpose, and pride of being a Girl Scout.



Girl Scout Movement

2026 Girl Scout Convention Be a Girl Delegate – Make Your Voice Heard!

Are you a Girl Scout, 14 years or older, who wants to help shape the future of our movement? This is your chance! GSDSW is seeking one girl delegate to represent our council at the 2026 GSUSA National Convention in Washington, D.C.

From July 18–26, 2026, thousands of Girl Scouts and supporters from across the country will come together to celebrate achievements, learn from inspiring leaders, and make decisions that will impact Girl Scouts everywhere. As our delegate, you will:

- Vote on proposals and help shape the movement
- Participate in important discussions that influence policies and programs
- Celebrate the successes of Girl Scouts nationwide
- Deepen your commitment to the Girl Scout mission

Who Can Apply:

- Registered Girl Scout member of GSDSW
- Ages 14–18 at the time of the convention

What GSDSW Covers:

The council will cover registration, hotel accommodations, meals, and round-trip airfare for elected delegates. Delegates are responsible for any incidental out-of-pocket expenses.

Delegate Requirements (per GSUSA):

- Attend the National Convention in Washington, D.C. from July 18–26, 2026
- Study all agenda items, including background information and Board recommendations, and be prepared to participate in discussions
- Attend council briefings and training sessions
- Participate in GSUSA teleconferences/webinars related to the convention
- Follow all uniform requirements for the convention
- Report back to the Board of Directors and membership on your experience and decisions

Why Apply?

The National Convention is an unforgettable experience! Gain inspiration, leadership skills, and the tools to create change in your community while connecting with some of the most influential women in the world.



Apply Here!

Application deadline is Thursday, October 16, 2025. Don't miss this opportunity to make your voice heard and represent GSDSW on a national stage!

Product

Fall Product Timeline

- Wednesday, October 1, 2025 - Last day for service units to enter order cards in M2.
- Monday, October 20 - Saturday, October 25, 2025 - Product delivery to service units.
- Sunday, November 9, 2025 - Last day for direct shipment.
- Sunday, November 9, 2025 - Fall Product ends.
- Tuesday, November 11, 2025 - Last Day for girls and troops to make reward choices.
- Thursday, November 13, 2025 - Girl moves/removes resumes.
Delinquent parent report due to council.
Recommended deadline for girls to turn in money to their troops.
- Monday, November 24, 2025 - ACH withdrawal.

BRAVE.
FIERCE.
FUN!



Important Upcoming Cookie Dates

Gluten-Free cookie orders are due to council no later than
Wednesday, October 22, 2025, by 5:00 PM MT

Initial cookie orders are due in Smart Cookies by
Monday, December 15, 2025, by 5:00 PM MT

October

- Oct. 13 - Troops/IRG Names due to Council
- Oct. 20 - SU & POC Training - Odessa
- Oct. 21 - SU & POC Training - Carlsbad
- Oct. 22 - SU & POC Training - El Paso
- Oct. 22 - GF Order due to info@gsdsw.org
- Oct. 23 - SU & POC Make-up Training (virtual)

November

- Nov. 20 - Last day for girl moves/removes in troops
- Nov. 21 - Import SU and Troop user emails in Smart Cookies

December

- Dec. 1 - Troop/Girl uploads in Smart Cookie
- Dec. 2 - Make-up Troop Cookie Coord. Training (virtual)
- Dec. 3 - Make-up Troop Cookie Coord. Training (virtual)
- Dec. 9 - Cupboard/Booth Coord. Training (virtual)
- Dec. 15 - Troop initial cookie order & initial rewards order due into Smart Cookie
- Dec. 16 - Troop/IRG Q&A - online
- Dec. 17 - Troop banking information due in Smart Cookies
- Dec. 23 - Cupboard/Booth Coord. Q&A - online

Product & Program

A sneak peek at Cookie Recognitions for 2026

6000+ Pkgs

Top Six Sellers

\$5 \$5 \$5 \$5 \$5 \$5

CHOICE
GSUSA National Convention
Jul 21-26, 2026
OR \$100 Desert Dollars

girl scouts

2026 Girl Scout Convention

500+ Pkgs

500 Club CHOICE
Roswell Lego Derby and
Campout, Apr 18-19, 2026
OR \$15 Desert Dollars

2750+ Pkgs

CHOICE
Beats Headphones & Class
Mar 24 or 25, 2026
OR \$50 Desert Dollars

Important Update: Silver Award Training Requirement

Starting October 1, 2025, all Cadettes working on their Silver Award are required to complete the Silver Award training at least once per year. This training, available through gsLearn in your MyGS account, may be updated by GSUSA at any time - so staying current is essential. The training provides critical information to ensure girls meet the official award criteria and successfully complete their projects.

We strongly recommend that Cadettes, troop leaders, and parents/guardians all take the training so everyone involved fully understands the expectations and process.

Stay informed, stay prepared, and best of luck on your Silver Award journey! If you have any questions about the Silver Award, please contact info@gsdsw.org.



Monthly Challenge

The October Monthly Challenge is
about scarecrows!
<https://tinyurl.com/Oct25Scarecrow>

Click to view
full flyer



Make a Scarecrow - October 2025

Autumn is here in all its colorful glory, and farmers everywhere are celebrating a bountiful growing season. October is the perfect time to reflect on the past year and prepare for the cozy transition into winter.

During harvest season, pumpkins are everywhere - from farmed fields and farmers to pumpkins in your yard and on your porch. One of the most common places you will see pumpkins is on a scarecrow!

The Story Behind Scarecrows
For centuries, scarecrows have helped farmers protect their crops. These human-like figures are traditionally made from wooden frames, old clothes, and straw, and are placed in fields to scare away birds and animals looking for an easy meal.

Scarecrows have been around the world, from ancient Egyptian fields to medieval European farms. Today, they are both practical tools and fun, creative expressions of the harvest season. Whether scary, silly, or artistic, scarecrows reflect the personality and creativity of their makers.

This Month's Challenge: Make Your Own Scarecrow
Citizens love a good scare, and our pumpkins need protecting. We challenge you to create your very own scarecrow to help keep the harvest safe.

Whether you're a beginner or a seasoned crafter, you can build your scarecrow big or small, spooky or sweet. Use items from around the house like old clothes, recycled materials, natural elements to make it your own. You don't have to use a pumpkin for a head. Don't forget to name your scarecrow and give it a bit of personality.

Deadline to submit your Scarecrow Monthly Challenge:
Friday, October 10, 2025, at 5:00 PM AEST
Submit report at <https://tinyurl.com/Oct25Scarecrow>
You will receive your patch in 1 - 4 weeks after the end of challenge.
If you have any questions, please email info@gsdsw.org.

www.gsdsw.org • info@gsdsw.org • 915-586-9425

Program

OCTOBER

Democracy Badge Workshop

Join Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest for a civic-themed adventure! As we explore how our local, state, and national government works, girls will learn who makes the rules, how decisions are made, and how we can make a difference in our communities!

Each program is level-specific, and girls receive the badge upon completion!
Share the fun and bring a “Not Yet” Girl Scout with you! Cost per girl is \$10.

El Paso

Daisy - Saturday, October 4, 2025

Brownie - Saturday, October 4, 2025

Junior - Saturday, October 11, 2025

Cadette - Ambassador - Saturday, October 18, 2025

Las Cruces

Daisy - Tuesday, October 1, 2025

Brownie - Thursday, October 21, 2025

Junior - Tuesday, October 23, 2025

Cadette - Ambassador - Saturday, October 28, 2025

Hobbs

Daisy - Monday, October 20, 2025

Brownie - Tuesday, October 21, 2025

Junior - Wednesday, October 22, 2025

Cadette - Ambassador - Thursday, October 23, 2025

Click to view
full flyer

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Democracy Badge Workshop

Join Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest for a civic-themed adventure as we explore how our local, state, and national government works - learning who makes the rules, how decisions are made, and how we can make a difference in our communities!

Not a Girl Scout? No problem - scan the QR code or sign up at the event! Meet new friends, learn what Girl Scouts is about, and join the fun. Already a Girl Scout? Bring a friend!

Daisy (grades K - 1)
Saturday, October 4, 2025
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM MDT
El Paso Girl Scout Program Center
9700 Girl Scout Way, El Paso, TX 79924
Cost: \$10 Min/Max: 5/20 girls
Registration: <https://biturl.com/DemocracyEP2025>
Registration deadline: Monday, September 29, 2025

Brownie (grades 2 - 3)
Saturday, October 4, 2025
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM MDT
El Paso Girl Scout Program Center
9700 Girl Scout Way, El Paso, TX 79924
Cost: \$10 Min/Max: 5/20 girls
Registration: <https://biturl.com/DemocracyEP2025>
Registration deadline: Monday, September 29, 2025

Junior (grades 4 - 5)
Saturday, October 11, 2025
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM MDT
El Paso Girl Scout Program Center
9700 Girl Scout Way, El Paso, TX 79924
Cost: \$10 Min/Max: 5/20 girls
Registration: <https://biturl.com/DemocracyEP2025>
Registration deadline: Monday, September 29, 2025

Cadette (grade 6 - 8), Senior (grade 9 - 10), Ambassador (grade 11-12)
Saturday, October 18, 2025
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM MDT
El Paso Girl Scout Program Center
9700 Girl Scout Way, El Paso, TX 79924
Cost: \$10 Min/Max: 5/20 girls
Registration: <https://biturl.com/DemocracyEP2025>
Registration deadline: Monday, October 13, 2025

Activities by Grade Level:
Daisy (K-1)
• Talk with a local guest speaker
• Write to your governor
• Design the President's house (coloring activity)
Brownie (2-3)
• Talk with a local guest speaker
• Learn about your mayor and governor
• Design the Capitol building (coloring activity)
Junior (4-5)
• Talk with a local guest speaker
• Map the country with the number of representatives
• Craft government "branches" (cut paper craft)
Cadette, Senior, Ambassador (6-12)
• Talk to a government expert
• Judge a Supreme Court Justice
• Explore political parties

Scan here to become a Girl Scout!

United Way

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Daisy (grades K - 1)
Wednesday, October 1, 2025
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM MDT
University United Methodist Church
2000 S. Locust St., Las Cruces, NM 88001
Cost: \$10 Min/Max: 5/20 girls
Registration: <https://biturl.com/DemocracyLC2025>
Registration deadline: Friday, September 26, 2025

Brownie (grades 2 - 3)
Tuesday, October 21, 2025
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM MDT
University United Methodist Church
2000 S. Locust St., Las Cruces, NM 88001
Cost: \$10 Min/Max: 5/20 girls
Registration: <https://biturl.com/DemocracyLC2025>
Registration deadline: Friday, September 26, 2025

Junior (grades 4 - 5)
Thursday, October 23, 2025
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM MDT
University United Methodist Church
2000 S. Locust St., Las Cruces, NM 88001
Cost: \$10 Min/Max: 5/20 girls
Registration: <https://biturl.com/DemocracyLC2025>
Registration deadline: Friday, October 17, 2025

Cadette (grade 6 - 8), Senior (grade 9 - 10), Ambassador (grade 11-12)
Tuesday, October 28, 2025
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM MDT
University United Methodist Church
2000 S. Locust St., Las Cruces, NM 88001
Cost: \$10 Min/Max: 5/20 girls
Registration: <https://biturl.com/DemocracyLC2025>
Registration deadline: Friday, October 24, 2025

Activities by Grade Level:
Daisy (K-1)
• Talk with a local guest speaker
• Write to your governor
• Design the President's house (coloring activity)
Brownie (2-3)
• Talk with a local guest speaker
• Learn about your mayor and governor
• Design the Capitol building (coloring activity)
Junior (4-5)
• Talk with a local guest speaker
• Map the country with the number of representatives
• Craft government "branches" (cut paper craft)
Cadette, Senior, Ambassador (6-12)
• Talk to a government expert
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Daisy (grades K - 1)
Monday, October 20, 2025
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM MDT
Hobbs Girl Scout Program Center
522 E. Broadway St., Hobbs, NM 88240
Cost: \$10 Min/Max: 5/20 girls
Registration: <https://biturl.com/DemocracyHB2025>
Registration deadline: Wednesday, October 15, 2025

Brownie (grades 2 - 3)
Tuesday, October 21, 2025
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM MDT
Hobbs Girl Scout Program Center
522 E. Broadway St., Hobbs, NM 88240
Cost: \$10 Min/Max: 5/20 girls
Registration: <https://biturl.com/DemocracyHB2025>
Registration deadline: Wednesday, October 15, 2025

Junior (grades 4 - 5)
Wednesday, October 22, 2025
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM MDT
Hobbs Girl Scout Program Center
522 E. Broadway St., Hobbs, NM 88240
Cost: \$10 Min/Max: 5/20 girls
Registration: <https://biturl.com/DemocracyHB2025>
Registration deadline: Wednesday, October 15, 2025

Cadette (grade 6 - 8), Senior (grade 9 - 10), Ambassador (grade 11-12)
Thursday, October 23, 2025
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM MDT
Hobbs Girl Scout Program Center
522 E. Broadway St., Hobbs, NM 88240
Cost: \$10 Min/Max: 5/20 girls
Registration: <https://biturl.com/DemocracyHB2025>
Registration deadline: Wednesday, October 15, 2025

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Daisy (K-1)
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• Explore political parties

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United Way

Engagement



Ceremony of Honors

Ceremony of Honors 2025 - Save the Date!

Please join Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest to celebrate the hard work and dedication of our girls and volunteers at our annual Ceremony of Honors.

Saturday, December 13, 2025

El Paso location
St Mark's Church
5005 Love Rd.
El Paso, TX 79922

Midland location
Midland Girl Scout Program Center
901 W. Dengar Ave.
Midland, TX 79705

**Celebrate Juliette Gordon Low's birthday,
Friday, October 31, 2025**



Free Invite-A-Friend Patch

We love it when our girls share Girl Scouting with others! Every Girl Scout who invites her friend to join receives a patch along with her friend. Email us at info@gsdsw.org with the names of both girls to receive your free yin yang patches.



Service Unit Roundtable

Tuesday, October 14, 2025

Important Troop Forms

- [Bank Account Request](#)
- [Emergency Procedures](#)
- [Health History](#)
- [Opportunity Fund Application](#)
- [Safety Activity Checkpoints](#)
- [Trip and High-Risk Activity Form](#)
- [Troop Disbandment Checklist](#)
- [Troop Disband Form](#)
- [Volunteer Essentials](#)

Resource Development



Participants \$250
/individual for both events

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DUAL CLAY SHOOT

What's included?
Breakfast and Lunch
Mulligans: \$5 each (max 4 per shooter)
Raffles, Awards, and More

Daily Schedule
8:30 AM - Registration & Morning Rotation
9:00 AM - Safety Briefing
9:30 AM - Shooting begins
12:30 PM - Lunch, Raffles & Awards

Register & Sponsor Link



<https://bit.ly/GSDSWClayShoot2025>

Hobbs Skeet Shoot
Saturday, October 18, 2025
Hobbs Trap Club
5600 N. A Street, Hobbs, NM 88240
\$125 Individual / \$475 Team of 4
Traditional skeet shoot - bring your best shot!

Artesia Sporting Clays
Saturday, November 15, 2025
Eddy County Shooting Range
131 N. Fire House Rd., Artesia, NM 88210
\$150 Individual / \$575 Team of 4
Tackle the sporting clays challenge course!

Double the Fun - Combo Pricing
\$250 for both events (Individual)
\$1,000 for both events (Team of 4)

For More Information: FundDevelopment@gsdsw.org **Sponsorships available**

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Saturday, October 25, 2025

CHUCK WAGON

Save the Date

A magical evening under the stars
Dinner, dancing, and a starlit celebration.

Camp Mitre Peak
200 Mitre Peak Camp Rd.
Fort Davis, TX 79734
6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Tickets:
Individual: \$60
<https://tinyurl.com/ChuckWagon2025>
Sponsorships available
<https://tinyurl.com/ChuckWagonSponsor2025>

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Saturday, April 11, 2026
34th Annual
Women of Distinction
Save the Date

Honoring Four Amazing Women in the Permian Basin
Dinner, Live and Silent Auctions, Cocktail Attire
Petroleum Club
501 W. Wall Street, Midland, TX 79701
6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Sponsorships Now Available
<https://bit.ly/2026WoD>



Council Properties

Council Property Building Rental / Usage

Reminder: Council Property Use Form Required

Planning to use a council property or building for troop meetings, programs, trainings, service unit meetings, or any other gathering? Don't forget - you must submit the

Troop/SU Meeting Property Rental Application

each program year, even if you submitted one last year.

Also, if your previously submitted form included specific dates that have now passed, you'll need to submit a new request for any upcoming use. This ensures we have accurate and current information for scheduling and support.

Be sure your troop or service unit is up to date!

If you would like to use or rent Camp Mitre Peak or any of our program centers for troop or service unit meetings, or for an event, please visit the following links:

Camp Mitre Peak Rental Application

Troop/SU Meeting Property Rental Application

GSDSW Members and Troop Mitre Council Property Rental Application



Camp Mitre Peak, Fort Davis, TX
Carlsbad, NM
Deming, NM
El Paso, TX
Fort Stockton, TX
Hobbs, NM

Las Cruces, NM
Midland, TX
Odessa, TX
Roswell, NM
Silver City, NM
White Spur Hut, El Paso, TX

Around the Council

Retail Shops

Council Shop Hours*

El Paso

Monday – Thursday 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
2:00 PM - 6:00 PM MDT
(Closed for lunch 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM)
1st Saturday of each month
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM MDT

Las Cruces

At the monthly Service Unit event
Pre-orders will also be delivered.

Midland

Tuesdays 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM CDT

Thursdays 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM & 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM CDT

1st & 3rd Saturday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM CDT

Odessa

2nd & 4th Saturday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM CDT

For locations, [click here](#).

Shop orders will be placed on the second Thursday of each month for special orders and items not in stock.

*Subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.



Girl Scouts of the Desert Southwest **Career Opportunities**

Customer Engagement Specialist - Las Cruces,
Midland, Odessa, and Silver City

Interested candidates should email
careers@gsdsw.org with resumes
and a cover letter.



If your service unit is organizing an event and you would like to have the GSDSW Mobile Store present, please complete and submit [this request form](#) at least one month before the event.